

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 379
By Rhinehart

A RESOLUTION to honor Briggs H. Smith of Sequatchie County for his lifetime of service to his community and family.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this legislative body recognize those persons who have served their communities and their families with extraordinary devotion and singular diligence; and

WHEREAS, Briggs H. Smith is an outstanding individual whose accomplishments and continuing contributions to the Dunlap area, Sequatchie County, and the state of Tennessee make him particularly deserving of special recognition; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Smith was born in Dunlap, Tennessee, on August 27, 1919, to Polk B. Smith and Ida Hixson Smith. Polk B. Smith served as a pharmacist in Dunlap where he established First Smith Drugs in 1896, and Ida Hixson Smith was a local piano teacher and composer; and

WHEREAS, young Briggs graduated from Sequatchie County High School in 1937, and, intent upon following in his father's footsteps by working in the family pharmacy, he began studying for a pharmacy degree at the University of Chattanooga; and

WHEREAS, he married Bobbie Ruth Anderson, daughter of Judge Joe Anderson and Bertie Kelly Anderson of Sequatchie County, in 1939; and

WHEREAS, Briggs and Bobbie moved to Chattanooga, where he continued his pharmacy studies and held three separate jobs to support his growing family, which came to include two daughters, Brenda and DeAnna, as well as a son, Ronnie; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Smith proudly served his country during World War II in the United States Army, for which he received the Medal of Commendation; and

WHEREAS, he graduated in June of 1954 from the University of Georgia School of Pharmacy where he received the Award of Merit and was offered a professorship on the faculty of the University of Georgia; and

WHEREAS, in addition, Briggs and Bobbie were encouraged by the president of the local bank where Bobbie was employed to establish their own drugstore there in Athens, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, the Smiths graciously declined both offers so that they might return to their hometown of Dunlap, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, upon their return to Tennessee, Briggs worked with his father at First Smith Drugs while Bobbie resumed her position with the Sequatchie County Bank; and

WHEREAS, Briggs H. Smith has been a stalwart and dedicated contributor to his community through his membership in the Lion's Club, for which he served as president in 1960 and 1961; the Mason's, of which he has been a member since 1954; the Veterans of Foreign Wars; the American Legion, for which he was the Division Commander in 1951 and 1952; and the Sequatchie County Bank Board of Directors, on which he has served since 1960; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Smith was appointed Colonel Aide-de-Camp by Governor Frank Clement in 1963, and was offered a position as commissioner in the Clement administration, which he respectfully declined in order to remain in Dunlap with his family; and

WHEREAS, Briggs has continued his lifelong emphasis on family through his devotion to his four grandsons and three granddaughters; and

WHEREAS, his family and friends are deservedly proud of Briggs H. Smith's generous efforts, and it is only appropriate that as elected representatives we should honor this great man for his numerous contributions to his community and our state; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we extend to Briggs H. Smith our thanks for his many contributions to Dunlap, Sequatchie County, and the great state of Tennessee, and we wish him much continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That Highway 111 at the intersection of Highway 127 to Whitlow Road on Cagle Mountain be known as "The Briggs Smith Highway" and suitable signs be erected in conformity with federal highway regulations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

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